IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE UNITED STATES FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF ALABAMA **NORTHERN DIVISION**

WILLIE MCNAIR,)
Plaintiff/Counter-Defendant,)
v.) Case No. 2:06-cv-695-WKW
RICHARD ALLEN, et al.,)
Defendants/Counter-Plaintiffs.)
JAMES CALLAHAN,)
Plaintiff/Counter-Defendant,)
v.) Case No. 2:06-cv-919-WKW
RICHARD ALLEN, et al.,)
Defendants/Counter-Plaintiffs.)

PLAINTIFFS' RESPONSE TO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE **REGARDING TRIAL CONTINUANCE**

Plaintiffs Willie McNair and James Callahan hereby respectfully submit the following Response to the Court's September 27, 2007 Order to Show Cause.

Plaintiffs are ready, willing and able to go to trial as scheduled next week. Plaintiffs recognize, however, that Defendants have announced their intention to change the Execution Procedures in Alabama. Therefore, it is not possible for there to be a trial concerning the constitutionality of the method of execution that the State actually will employ or intend to employ in the execution of Plaintiffs. For these reasons, Plaintiffs do not object to the continuation. The continuation and any resulting delay is not any result of Plaintiffs' doing and should not in any future proceeding be treated as a basis for preventing them from receiving a full hearing on their § 1983 claim brought in this action.

Date: September 28, 2007

/s/ Heather K. McDevitt VINCENT R. FITZPATRICK, JR. HEATHER K. MCDEVITT STEPHANIE COHEN Bar Numbers (SDNY): VF2907; HM9973; SM7006 Counsel for Plaintiff Willie McNair

White & Case LLP 1155 Avenue of the Americas New York, NY 10036 Telephone: (212) 819-8200 Facsimile: (212) 354-8113 vfitzpatrick@whitecase.com hmcdevitt@whitecase.com stephcohen@whitecase.com

- and -

RANDALL S. SUSSKIND (SUS002) **CATHLEEN I. PRICE (PRI056)** Counsel for Plaintiffs Willie McNair and James Callahan

Equal Justice Initiative of Alabama 122 Commerce Street Montgomery, AL 36104 Telephone: (334) 269-1803 Facsimile: (334) 269-1806 rsusskind@eji.org cprice@eji.org

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that on September 28, 2007, a copy of the foregoing was filed electronically with the Clerk of the Court using the CM/ECF system, which will send notification of such filing to the following: J. Clayton Crenshaw, James W. Davis, Corey Maze and Jasper Roberts.

> /s/ Peter B. Patterson, Jr. Peter B. Patterson, Jr.

White & Case LLP 1155 Avenue of the Americas New York, NY 10036 Telephone: (212) 819-8200 Facsimile: (212) 354-8113 tmarlar@whitecase.com